

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 YAOUND 01940 171804Z

51

ACTION AF-18

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 IO-14 CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01

SS-20 SP-03 NSC-07 PA-04 PRS-01 USIA-15 DRC-01 /095 W
----- 054242

P 171720Z JUN 74

FM AMEMBASSY YAOUNDE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 3505

INFO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY MOGADISCIO PRIORITY

CONFIDENTIAL YAOUNDE 1940

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, OAU, XA

SUBJECT: BIO INFO ON NEW OAU SECGEN ETEKI

1. EMBASSY RECORDS INDICATE CONSIDERABLE BIO INFO ON NEW OAU SECGEN WILLIAM ETEKI MBOUMOUA PREVIOUSLY SUBMITTED IN YAOUNDE'S A-124, MARCH 9, 1964; YAOUNDE'S A-10, JULY 24, 1964; BIOGRAPHIC DATA FORM DATED MARCH 5, 1970; YAOUNDE 800 (APRIL 6, 1970); AND YAOUNDE'S A-29, MARCH 7, 1972. THIS TELEGRAM DESIGNED TO UPDATE AND SUPPLY MORE CURRENT AND EVALUATIVE MATERIAL, NOT SUMMARIZE OR REPEAT BASIC INFO ALREADY AVAILABLE TO DEPARTMENT.

2. HAVING SERVED SINCE RUNE 1971 AS TECHNICAL ADVISER (CONSEILLER TECHNIQUEL AT CAMEROON PRESIDENCY, ETEKI WAS ELEVATED IN SEPTEMBER 1972 TO MORE PRESTIGIOUS POST OF SPECIAL ADVISER (CONSEILLER SPECIAL) AT PRESIDENCY. HIS RESPONSIBILITIES WERE TO CARRY OUT WHATEVER TASKS WERE ENTRUSTED HIM BY PRESIDENT, AND HE WAS HIERARCHICALLY INDEPENDENT OF PRESIDENCY'S POWERFUL SECRETARIAT GENERAL. PRESIDENCY HABITUALLY OPERATES AMIDST AURA OF SECRECY AND DISCRETION, AND IT NEVER CLEAR TO OUTSIDERS EXACTLY WHAT MAIN RESPONSIBILITIES HANDLED BY ETEKI OR OTHERS. SOURCES AT PRESIDENCY HAVE OCCASIONALLY TOLD EMBOFFS THAT ETEKI PRIMARILY OVERSEES EDUCATION MATTERS (HIS FORMER MINISTERIAL PORTFOLIO). ETEKI CLEARLY HAS WORKED ON FOREIGN POLICY AND DIPLOMATIC MATTERS. HE WAS AHIDJO'S PRINCIPAL SUPPORT DURING 1971 OAU WISEMEN VISITS, ACCCOMPANIED HIM TO CAIRO AND TEL AVIV, AND LATER, AS AHIDJO'S

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 YAOUND 01940 171804Z

REPRESENTATIVE MADE THE FOLLOW-UP TRIP WITH SENGHOR. AHIDJO HAS

OCCASIONALLY, IN INTRODUCING HIM TO AMERICANS, LAUGHINGLY REFERRED TO HIM AS "MY KISSINGER" (PRIOR TO LATTER'S NOMINATION TO STATE). HE IS GENERALLY WELL INFORMED AND INTERESTED IN FOREIGN AFFAIRS. BY ARRANGEMENT INAUGURATED WITH PREVIOUS PAO, ETEKI REGULARLY RECEIVED SELECTED STORIES FROM USIS WIRELESS FILE ON MAJOR FOREIGN POLICY ISSUES. (HE IS ONLY REGULAR SUCH RECIPIENT IN GURC). HIS ACTIVE INTEREST IN RECEIVING SUCH MATERIAL INDICATED BY INITIATIVE HE TOOK IN CONTACTING PRESENT PAO SHORTLY AFTER LATTER'S ARRIVAL TO ASSURE CONTINUED FLOW OF WIRELESS FILE AND OTHER USIS MATERIAL.

3. ETEKI VISITED U. S. AS LEADER GRANTEE IN 1968 AND WAS FASCINATED BY PARTY CONVENTION THAT HE ATTENDED. NO INDICATION OF ANTI-AMERICANISM. IS ONE OF MORE FAITHFUL AMONG GURC OFFICIALS IN ATTENDING DINNERS AND RECEPTIONS AT AMBASSADOR'S RESIDENCE. FOR WHATEVER REASON, HE IS VERY FRIENDLY WITH DEPARTING SOUTH KOREAN AMBASSADOR AND IS REGARDED BY SOUTH KOREAN EMBASSY AS STRONGLY PRO-SOUTH IN KOREAN MATTERS. NO EVIDENCE IN RECENT YEARS THAT REFLECTS HIS PAST DABBING IN LEFTISM DURING STUDENT DAYS. HE IS INTELLECTUAL WITH BROAD INTERESTS IN MANY FIELDS. ALSO A JAZZ BUFF. HIS CURRENT WIFE, THE EX-YVETTE MOUKOURY, IS A PROMINENT (AND PROSPEROUS) PHARMACIST WHOSE RELUCTANCE TO LEAVE YAOUNDE MAY EXPLAIN WHY HE HASN'T HAD OTHER FOREIGN ASSIGNMENTS.

4. ETEKI IS QUIET AND REMOTE IN DEMEANOR, NOT GIVEN TO SMALL TALK, DOES NOT SEEM ESPECIALLY AT EASE AT RECEPTIONS. HE IS UNCHARISMATIC. NOTHING IN HIS BEHAVIOR OR TALK THAT PRESENT EMBASSY STAFF HAS SEEN OR HEARD INDICATES DOCTRINAIRE VIEWS OR EVEN OVERRIDING INTEREST IN GREAT AFRICAN ISSUES SUCH AS LIBERATION CAUSE. RATHER, HE IS SERIOUS, APPARENTLY COMPETENT HARD WORKER WHO HAS KNOWN HOW TO BE PROPERLY FACELESS TO OUTSIDERS AS HE PERFORMED KEY FUNCTIONS WITHIN INNER SANCTUM AT GURC PRESIDENCY. HE WILL NO DOUBT FAITHFULLY REPRESENT OAU IN HIS NEW JOB, BUT IS UNLIKELY THRUST SELF TOO FAR FORWARD OR SEEK PERSONALIZED STARDOM. THIS MAY BE JUST WHAT OAU IS READY FOR AFTER DIALLO TELLI AND NZO EKANGAKY.

MOORE

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptoning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: BIOGRAPHIC INFORMATION, SECRETARY GENERAL
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 17 JUN 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: WorrelSW
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974YAOUND01940
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D740157-0547
From: YAOUNDE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19740637/aaaabfyw.tel
Line Count: 98
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION AF
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: WorrelSW
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 14 AUG 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <14-Aug-2002 by boyleja>; APPROVED <26 FEB 2003 by WorrelSW>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: BIO INFO ON NEW OAU SECGEN ETEKI
TAGS: PFOR, XA, OAU, (ETEKI, WILLIAM MBOUMOUA)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005